

HOGG AND HUTTON'S ADVERTISEMENT.

PORT WINE, 1834 Vintage, 42 years old; per dozen, 110s.

PORT WINE, 1844 Vintage, 32 years old. A bargain. Per dozen, 75s.

BBROWN SHERRY, 10 years. Just received. Rare value Per dozen, 75s.

COLONIAL WINES, 30s. to 35s. per dozen.

LORNE WHISKEY (Genuine), 48s. per dozen.

HOGG AND HUTTON, Octagon.

WANTED, for ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL QUEENSTOWN, a Certificated Male Teacher. For further particulars, apply to

J. F. TULLY, SECRETARY,
St. Joseph's School Committee,
QUEENSTOWN.

WANTED KNOWN—J. A. MACEDO'S New Catalogue of Books on Page 8. All are requested to read it.

CLIFFORD'S MIRROR OF THE WORLD.

Mr. G. P. CLIFFORD having nearly completed his collection of Views of Dunedin, to form part of his

MIRROR OF NEW ZEALAND,

which he intends exhibiting in the United Kingdom, and being about to proceed North to complete the same, has, at the request of a number of citizens, decided to give a

WEEK'S ENTERTAINMENT
OF HIS

MIRROR OF THE WORLD,

pronounced by the Press, and all who have seen it, to be the most Beautiful and Truthful collection of Views ever placed before the Public.

The Mirror comprises nearly 2000 Views of the most striking and wonderful Scenery in the World, and the most

EXQUISITE STATUARY,

from the principal galleries of Europe, exhibited by the strongest form of Lime-light, with the aid of the latest improvements in optics.

MONDAY, 12TH MARCH,

AT THE

TEMPERANCE HALL.

Change of Programme every Evening.

Chairs, 3s; Back Seats, 2s; Gallery, 1s. To give all an opportunity, tickets will be sold previous to the opening, at the following rates:—

In packets of six (transferable), Chairs, 12s 6d; Back Seats, 9s. To be obtained at Begg's Music Warehouse, Princes-street.

AN APPEAL.

FOR the last six years the "Daughters of St. Dominick" have been struggling to promote, in Dunedin, that good which it is the end of their Order to effect throughout the world,—namely,—the Education of Female Youth, in the path of science and virtue.

The question of the advancement of true civilization, of genuine progress in the only real sense of the word—of the happiness of society, as of individuals, of the temporal and eternal interests of the rising generation, is eminently involved in the development and training of the young mind.

While the subverters of order and authority in Italy, Germany, and other countries, spare neither wealth nor energy in their efforts to mislead the young and innocent, shall we be dismayed by our poverty? Shall we make no sacrifices to save them? Shall we not rather call unto us the little ones of Christ,—shelter them from the baneful influence of corrupt principles and bad example—teach them that life has not been bestowed on them to be squandered in self-indulgence, vanity, or the gratification of their passions?—but that, on the contrary, it is to be devoted to the self-denying task of acquiring that solid, useful, and religious knowledge, without which they can never be good members of society here, or attain their noble destiny hereafter. To impart that all-important knowledge, the Dominican Nuns have devoted their existence. Hitherto their efforts in New Zealand have been much impeded by the numerous difficulties in which they have been placed. The want of suitable conventual and scholastic buildings has been a sore trial, and numberless have been the inconveniences arising therefrom. Plans for a Convent, suited to the requirements of the Dominican Rule, and affording facilities to the Sisters for conducting their Schools, according to the style of their European Houses, have been drawn out;—the means alone are wanting for the accomplishment of the design. The Nuns, therefore, earnestly solicit donations towards a work which will involve an outlay of at least fourteen or fifteen thousand pounds.

The smallest contribution will entitle the donor to a place on the list of Benefactors, for whom prayers are daily offered.

DOMINICAN CONVENT, DUNEDIN
FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LADY.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

INQUIRER wishes to know if there is any truth in the assertion that the astronomer Kepler was persecuted because of his scientific discoveries, and if his mother was included in the odium obtained by him, so that she all but perished as a witch. There is no foundation whatever for the statements referred to. Kepler was educated in a monastery, and found patrons amongst the Catholic potentates of his day; notably, the German Emperor and the Grand Duke of Tuscany.

New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9, 1877.

A SOLEMN FARCE.

OUR heading is, we admit, a strange one; but we fancy we shall be able to show before the end of this article that, though strange, it is, in reference to Education, unfortunately only too appropriate. On the last day of the last month the Wellington Board of Education held its ordinary monthly meeting. One part of the business transacted was the consideration of Mr. Inspector LEE's report. The ninth section of this report recommends the giving of prizes for Scripture History in the Government schools of the Province. This recommendation gave rise to a discussion which is very instructive. In answer to an objection, the Inspector read from the regulations as follows:—"Religious instruction not of a controversial character may be given at any school, provided it be given at certain fixed times, so arranged that parents objecting thereto may conveniently withdraw their children from the school during such times."

Mr. GISBORNE said there could be no objection to a clergyman giving religious instruction to children of his own congregation in these schools, but he thought the case of a teacher was different; and to say that it could be done without partaking of a controversial character was absurd.—Mr. BUNNY: Necessarily each teacher would give his own views of the subject, and that would open the door to all sorts of opinions.—The SECRETARY said: You can give religious instruction, so long as you do not introduce anything denominational.

It would be interesting and curious to see a trial made to act on the Secretary's opinion. We wonder what that very distinguished Christian could teach on religious subjects without introducing anything denominational. We know of nothing in Christianity common to all religious sects. Why they are not agreed as to the primary truth—the existence of a personal God.

The Wellington School Board did not accept the opinion of its Secretary, and rejected the ninth section of its Inspector's Report—consequently the Board has affirmed the principle of purely secular education. Even the history of the Bible has no place in its programme. Is not this, we ask, a solemn farce? Here is a Board, supposed to be composed of Christian gentlemen and Scholars, sitting in solemn meeting and gravely and deliberately making provision for the education of the people, and at the same time excluding Bible History from the list of subjects taught in its Schools. Only fancy an education in a Christian country without the least reference to either Bible or Church History! This is, indeed, the most solemn of solemn farces;—a system of Education under which neither the name of God, nor of CHRIST, nor of the Church, is to be even mentioned. What sort of scholars, we should like to know, will result from such a system? This much is quite certain, they cannot be educated, though they may have some instruction in some few things. But to join the word education to such a system is an absurdity so wild and extravagant, that it could be entertained only by blind philosophers, in this conceited and illogical nineteenth century.

A system of purely secular education, if honestly carried out, can only lead to the most profound and deplorable ignorance, and must inevitably end in flinging mankind back into the abominations of paganism. A system of really secular education blots out the past of all christian nations, makes the history of mankind a blank for the rising generation, for if education must not speak of God, the Bible, the Church, or any of the facts inseparably bound up with these, it must altogether ignore history, secular and religious; the past must be absolutely thrust out of sight, and all its truly important lessons utterly disregarded.